GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2516
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2003
CLEARANCE TO HYDRO POWER PROJECTS OF KERALA
K. MURALEEDHARAN

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hydro-power projects submitted by the Government of Kerala are pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the hydro-power projects cleared by the Government during the last two years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (c) : There is no Hydro-electric Project in Kerala pending clearance from Central Electricity Authority/Ministry of Power.

However, with regard to environment clearance, the Puyankutty Hydro- electric project was rejected in January, 1991 as the Project was located in the prime forest area of the Western Ghats. The Project was reviewed by Ministry of Environment& Forests again in 1996 and was rejected by them on the ground of `adverse ecological impact.`

The Athirapally Hydro-electric Project was accorded Environment &Forest clearance in 1998 and 1999 respectively. However, the environmental clearance was subsequently suspended on 19.11.2001 as the Hon`ble High Court of Kerala haddirected that a Public Hearing should be conducted.

The Mankulam Hydro-electric Project (40 MW) is being considered for forest clearance.

The Detailed Project Report of the Athirapally Hydro Electric Project wasreturned by the Central Electricity Authority to the Kerala State Electricity Board in June,2002 as essential inputs/details were not tied up. The Government of Kerala has toresubmit the proposal after obtaining the comments of the Central Water Commission.

A total of nine Hydro-electric Projects with combined installed capacity of906 MW have been returned to the project authorities in Kerala for re-submission due to various reasons like inter-State aspects and location of projects in the Cauvery basin.

The Kuttiyadi Additional Extension (Augmentation) Project (2x50 MW) isprogrammed for capacity addition in X Plan and is scheduled to be completed in 2006-07.

Details of Hydroelectric schemes along with their installed capacity cleared by the Central Electricity Authority in the last two years and during the current year are given below :

Year	No. of Schemes	Installed Capacity (MW)
2001-02	2	360
2002-03	8	4362
2003-04	4	2581

(Upto November, 2003)